

Literacy B.C.

This is the first issue of the Literacy B.C. update with a new look.

Literacy B.C. will be producing this section every other month. We hope you like it, please let us know your thoughts. We have made a Directory of all the Project Literacy groups and the Literacy B.C. regional representatives for you to use. Please keep this section, we will publish changes when they happen.

We want to hear from you - please send us any news, comments, things of interest that you think others in the literacy field might like to know about. This newsletter is a way to keep us all connected - your information is valuable and important! Please call or mail your NEWS and VIEWS to:

Linda Mitchell
108 - 250 18th St.
West Vancouver, BC V7V 3V5
Phone: 922-8203 Fax: 926-6888

PLEASE JOIN US for an evening with Dr. Hanna Arlene Fingeret.

TOPIC: "ISSUES IN LITERACY":
A discussion about Participatory
Literacy Education.

DATE: Thursday, January 24, 1991, 7:30 p.m.

COST: \$5.00

PLACE: Chateau Granville Hotel,
1100 Granville St.,
Vancouver

Hanna is currently Executive Director of Literacy South in Raleigh, N.C. and Associate Professor at North Carolina State University. She is an exciting and inspirational person who has led the field in terms of involving learners to shape literacy initiatives.

Call: 922-8203 to register before JANUARY 11, 1991.

LITERACY 2000 CONFERENCE

Several of the speakers at the Literacy 2000 Conference kindly donated their honoraria so that Literacy students could attend. Having students attend was important because it meant that literacy students were able to be a very important part of this Conference.

The students who attended were: Michael Booker (Victoria), Larry Loyie and Ann Burger (Vancouver), Esther and Tammy Antoine (Duncan), Sharon Cradock (Nanaimo) and Shanon Doncaster (Williams Lake). Here is what Shanon had to say about her experiences:

"I was honoured to be present at the Literacy 2000 Conference. I met teachers, tutors, government people, and learners. I enjoyed the workshops. There were speakers from many parts of the globe, I learned that there is more than we can do as learners. As learners we should be more vocal in our communities.

I have only one complaint, the Conference should have been longer so that we could have been able to go to more workshops. Written on the cup I purchased there are the words "LITERACY IS A HUMAN RIGHT" which is what I believe this cause is all about".

A VOICE FOR LEARNERS

We would like to have a regular column in this newsletter. A place for you to talk about your learner group, to send your writing or to talk about your concerns...Please call 922-8203 with your News or comments.

L.I.F.F.E., The Williams Lake Learners group is working on making a Public Service announcement for radio and TV, which will encourage learners to get involved. In Kelowna, a new group has started and 12 learners came to the last meeting. Anyone who is interested can call KEN REICH at 861-8002. ANN BURGER was invited to go to a meeting in Ottawa last month about Literacy and the Museum. It is good to know the museums are concerned about how to be more involved in promoting literacy and being useful to literacy students. LARRY LOYIE is in Ottawa as the B.C. person who is part of the ceremony to present the final version of the BOOK VOYAGE book to the Prime Minister.

NEWS FROM PROJECT LITERACY GROUPS

recently PROJECT LITERACY TERRACE provided training for four trainers in preparation for the opening of their Literacy Contact Centre. PL WILLIAMS LAKE is having great success with their new ACCESS LINE. This line is for parents who want help reading the new report cards being used for primary students. PL WILLIAMS LAKE volunteers will take the calls, the local School District is funding the advertising of this service.

PL VICTORIA is pleased to announce that CHARLOTTE BOWIE has been hired as coordinator. There were 95 applicants from across the country.

There will be more in-depth news about the Project Literacy groups in the province in the February issue.

CONGRATULATIONS...

...to the Ministry of Social Services and Housing and MALASPINA COLLEGE in Parksville who have developed an excellent program which is a great example of partnership at work. Here is the report from JANET KING, Rehabilitation Officer for M.S.S.H. Parksville:

"The Ministry of Social Services and Housing and the local college identified that long term functionally illiterate clients needed more than the traditional upgrading offered in the Adult Basic Skills Programs.

We designed an extensive educational experience that had equal time devoted to Life Skills and Literacy. The cooperative effort had an immediate positive impact in meeting both students' objectives, and those of the partners involved. The 1989/90 program began with 20 students, 15 graduated and 11 are now gainfully employed. Not only has the office staff been involved in the Basic Skills Program, two employees are Project Literacy/Fresh Start Society Board Members. The Parksville office is very proud of the Basic Skills and Life Skills program, as are our Area Manager, Larry Pond, and our Regional Director, Chris Haynes.

Similar programs have been implemented in Courtenay, Campbell River and Sechelt. Other communities in the region are currently in the planning stage.

LITERACY BC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Since the Founding meeting held in March 1990, the Board of Directors has met three times. The Directors are made up of 15 regional representatives and 10 Members at Large. Six of our Board members are learners which is a great beginning to making sure that learners issues and concerns are being considered. The Board has been involved with:

- developing a mission statement for Literacy B.C.
- developing a three year strategy plan
- establishing working committees to deal with:
 - Bylaws
 - Membership/Nominations
 - Regional Development
 - Public Awareness
 - Government Relations

Anyone who is interested in working on these committees would be most welcome. Just call 922-8203.

- Planning a process for developing regional networks, supporting and developing community based literacy programs.
- Liaison with the Adult Basic Education Association of B.C. and various other groups and organizations associated with the literacy field.

WHO ARE ALL THESE BOARD MEMBERS ANYWAY?
Next newsletter we will give you profiles of this year's Board.

FROM THE PRESIDENT...

Lee Weinstein, President of the Board of Directors, is pleased to announce the appointment of LINDA MITCHELL as Literacy B.C.'s first Executive Director. Linda comes to this position from Victoria where she was the Executive Director of the Victoria READ Society, a learning centre for children and adults. In addition, she was instrumental in developing Project Literacy Victoria and sat on the interim board of Literacy B.C. Linda brings to this position a strong background in community development with her experience in several B.C. communities with the Ministry of Social Services, the Y.M.C.A. and serving on many volunteer boards.

A FOOTNOTE FROM LINDA

Helping to shape a brand new organization is certainly a challenge—but a wonderful and exciting one.

I recently returned from a mini-tour of the province and was able to meet with students, Project Literacy groups, community leaders, media, business persons and representatives from several ministries. I travelled to Courtenay, Parksville, Victoria then on to Prince George, Vanderhoof, Burns Lake, Terrace/Kitimat, Smithers, Williams Lake and 100 Mile House. In Prince George, I also met with people from Tumbler Ridge and Fort St. John.

I came home feeling much more connected to all the activities and people involved in literacy in B.C. and having a much better sense of what is needed to build a strong provincial coalition. I was impressed with the amount of valuable work that is being done by so many dedicated individuals who are committed to making a difference in their communities.

On behalf of Literacy B.C., our warmest wishes to you all for a happy and relaxing Christmas and our best wished for a peaceful and prosperous 1991. We look forward to continuing our work with you all.

LOGO CONTEST

Literacy B.C. is looking for a logo to be used on our letterhead, newsletter, banners and posters. We would like anyone who is interested in putting their creative ideas to work, to send their design on an 8 1/2 x 11" page to:

Linda Mitchell

108 - 250 18th St.

West Vancouver, BC V7V 3V5

Deadline for entries is January 31, 1991. Please be sure that learners know about this contest. Everyone who submits a design will receive a free membership to Literacy BC. The winner will receive \$100.00!

Literacy B.C. Directory

**PROJECT LITERACY
ABBOTSFORD-MATSQUI**
Contact: Cynthia Andruske
Wendy Watson
Fraser Valley College
33844 King Road
Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 4N2
Phone: 853-7441

**COMOX VALLEY
LITERACY PROJECT
GROUP**
Contact: David Driedger
Vancouver Island
Regional Library
Courtenay Branch
410 Cliffe Ave.
Courtenay, B.C. V9N 2J2
Phone: 334-3369

**FORT ST. JOHN
LITERACY SOCIETY**
Contact: Romi Haseo
Fort St. John Public Library
10349-100th Street
Fort St. John, B.C. V1J 3Z2
Phone: 785-3731

**FRASER VALLEY EAST
LITERACY ASSOCIATION**
Contact: Gail Newby
45405 Stevenson Road
Sardis, B.C. V2R 1M2
Phone: 858-4913

**PROJECT LITERACY
GREATER VANCOUVER**
Contact: Hendrik Hoekema
Simon Fraser University
Burnaby, B.C. V5A 1S6
Phone: 291-3298

**PROJECT LITERACY
HOUSTON**
Contact: Sandi Lavallie
c/o Northwest Community
College
P.O. Box 1277
Houston, B.C. V0J 1Z0
Phone: 845-7266

**PROJECT LITERACY
KELOWNA SOCIETY**
Contact: Maxine Veach
(Coordinator)
Betty Knox (President)
P.O. Box 1886, Stn. A
Kelowna, B.C. V1Y 8T2
Phone: 762-2163

LITERACY NANAIMO
Contact: Carolyn Mc Whinnie
#314-350 Terminal Ave.
Nanaimo, B.C. V9S 4J7
Phone: 754-1704

**PROJECT LITERACY
PARKSVILLE/QUALICUM**
Contact: Linda Perkins
The Write Place
192A Morrison Avenue
Parksville, B.C. V0R 2S0
Phone: 248-4041 or 248-4042

**PROJECT LITERACY
PRINCE GEORGE**
Contact: Murry Krause
United Way
Box 494
Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S6
Phone: 561-1040 Fax: 562-8102

**PROJECT LITERACY
POWELL RIVER**
Contact: Linda Charkel
Phone: 455-2878

**PROJECT LITERACY
PRINCE RUPERT**
Contact: Sheila Lid
1920 Atlin Avenue
Prince Rupert, B.C. V8J 1E8
Phone: 624-6698 or 627-7178

LITERACY SMITHERS
Contact: Levica Markides
Smithers Community Serv-
ices
Association
Box 2684, Smithers, B.C. V0J
2N0
Phone: 847-9553

**PROJECT LITERACY
SUNSHINE COAST**
Contact: Mary Pinnigar
c/o Continuing Education,
SD #46
P.O. Box 888
Sechelt, B.C. V0N 3A0
Phone: 885-2991

**PROJECT LITERACY
SURREY/DELTA**
Contact: Bev Yaworsky
Surrey Public Library
Phone: 591-4312

**PROJECT LITERACY
TERRACE**
Contact: Ella Goodlad
Northwest Community Col-
lege
P.O. Box 726, Terrace, B.C.
V8G 4C2
Phone: 635-6511, local 316

**TUMBLER RIDGE
LITERACY GROUP**
Contact: Janet Hartford
Box 18
Tumbler Ridge B.C. V0C 2W0
Phone: 242-3915 or 242-4778

PROJECT LITERACY
VICTORIA
Contact: Donna Oswald-
Miller
c/o Sooke School District
Continuing Education
3143 Jacklin Road
Victoria, B.C. V9B 5R1
Phone: 474-9800

PROJECT LITERACY
WEST KOOTENAYS
Contact: Judy Wearmouth
Castlegar Public Library
1005-3rd Street
Castlegar, B.C. V1N 2A2
Phone: 365-7765

PROJECT LITERACY
WILLIAMS LAKE
Contact: Debby DeMare
P.O. Box 4596
Williams Lake, B.C. V2G 2V6
Phone: 398-8400

**Literacy B.C. Regional
Representatives:**

Camosun Region
Contact: Audrey Thomas
2043 Swanson Pl.
Victoria, B.C. V8P 1Y5
Phone: 598-9218
Fax: 721-1029

Capilano Region
Contact: Barbara McBride
2132 Hamilton
North Vancouver, B.C.
V7P 2M3
Phone: 986-8888
Fax: 986-6709

Cariboo Region
Contact: Debbie DeMare
Box 4596
Williams Lake, B.C. V2G 2V6
Phone: 398-8400
Fax: 392-4984

Douglas Region
Contact: Mardi Joyce
8574 Woodridge Pl.
Burnaby, B.C.
V5A 4B6
Phone: 420-1553

Fraser Valley Region
Contact: Ranjit Diwana
2420 Montrose Ave.
Abbotsford, B.C. V2S 3S9
Phone: 859-7681
Fax: 859-7681

Kwantlen Region
Contact: Lee Weinstein
14525 110A Ave.
Surrey, B.C. V3R 2B4
Phone: 584-5424
Fax: 584-0251

Malaspina Region
Contact: Wayne Kingston
344 9th Ave.
Nanaimo, B.C.
V9R 1A4
Phone: 754-8348

New Caledonia Region
Contact: Murry Krause
Box 494
Prince George, B.C. V2L 4S6
Phone: 561-1040
Fax: 562-8102

North Island Region
Contact: David Driedger
410 Cliffe Ave.
Courtenay, B.C. V9N 2J2
Phone: 334-3369
Fax: 334-0910

Northwest Region
Contact: Larry Merrill
205-4650 Lazalle Ave.
Terrace, B.C. V8G 1S8
Phone: 635-7995

Okanagan Region
Contact: Ken Reich
4129 Alta Vista Rd.
Kelowna, B.C. V1X 6K9
Phone: 861-8002

Selkirk Region
Contact: Judy Wearmouth
1005-3rd St.
Castelgar, B.C. V1N 2A2
Phone: 365-7765

Vancouver Region
Contact: Sally Gellard
887 W. 20th Ave.
Vancouver, B.C. V5Z 1X3
Phone: 875-9027